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U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual Volume 14 Handbook 5
Diplomatic Post Office Handbook

14 FAH-5 H-620 DPO MAIL SEALED AGAINST INSPECTION

(CT:DPO-2; 12-17-2013) (Office of Origin: A/LM)

14 FAH-5 H-621 DPO MAIL SEALED AGAINST INSPECTION

(CT:DPO-1; 11-14-2013)

No person may open, read, search, or divulge the contents of mail sealed against inspection, even though such mail may be believed to contain criminal or otherwise non-mailable matter of evidence in the commission of a crime, except in the following circumstances:

- (1) When a postal supervisor acts with the consent of the addressee or sender; or
- (2) When an authorized person (i.e. RSO) executes a search warrant or search authorization.

14 FAH-5 H-622 DPO MAIL NOT SEALED AGAINST INSPECTION

(CT:DPO-2; 12-17-2013)

No person may open, read, search, or divulge the contents of mail not sealed against inspection, except in the following circumstances:

- (1) When such action is authorized with respect to mail sealed against inspection; or
- (2) When a postal supervisor suspects that the mail contains non-mailable items, follow the instructions listed below in 14 FAH-5 *H-623* below.

14 FAH-5 H-623 DISPOSITION OF NON-MAILABLE ITEMS

(CT:DPO-2; 12-17-2013)

a. Non-mailable items described in USPS Publication 52 detected at DPO's must be withdrawn from the mail and retained at the Diplomatic Post Office (DPO), pending disposition instructions from the Office of Diplomatic Pouch and Mail

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(DPM), unless the item poses an immediate danger to the DPO facility. Immediate threats should be reported to the Regional Security Officer (RSO) for guidance.

- b. If the postal officer determines the non-mailable matter is dangerous to persons or property, or constitutes a postal offense follow these procedures: Send an e-mail message that includes the Postal Officer and RSO to: DPO-Answerperson@state.gov and the Office of Diplomatic Pouch and Mail (DPM) will follow up telephonically if necessary, with disposition instructions.
- c. A Postal offense will be entered into Automated Military Postal System (AMPS).
- d. The non-mailable matter must be disposed of as advised.
- e. The sender and addressee must be advised of final disposition of the non-mailable matter.

14 FAH-5 H-624 THROUGH H-629 UNASSIGNED